



Healththreats



ASL Brescia



Conference

Health Threats in the European Union



Detail - The plague of Ashdod (1630) - Nicolas Poussin

Brescia, 24th September 2010

Venue: Fondazione Iniziative Zooprofilattiche e Zootecniche, Via Istria, 3/B Brescia

Programme

08.15 Registration

08.45 Welcome and opening of the meeting

Carmelo Scarcella

General Manager ASL Brescia

Leader Healththreats Project

Germain Thinus

DG SANCO

1° session:

Public health tools to face health crisis at the beginning of the third millennium

Chairmain

Ezio Lodetti

Lombardy and Emilia Romagna Experimental Zootechnic Institute

09.15 **Information technology in support to Public Health in the EU**

Alessandro Annunziato

Joint Research Centre, European Commission

10.00 **The flu threat in the EU: vaccination and management of the crisis**

Pierluigi Lopalco

European Centre for Disease Control

10.30 Coffee break

2° session:

The Healththreats Project

Chairmain

Umberto Gelatti

ASL Brescia

11.00 **Overview and main results**

Carmelo Scarcella

ASL Brescia

11.30 **The Processes**

Guglielmino Baitelli

ASL Brescia

11.45 **The Decision Support System**

Pietro Baroni

Università di Brescia

12.00 **The training**

Giacomo Ferrari

Laser Soc. Coop. Brescia

12.15 **The Italian localisation**

Fabio Besozzi

ASL Brescia

12.35 **The Spanish localisation**

Simò Schwarz

Secretary's Office for Strategy and Coordination (SEC) of the Ministry of Health of the Catalan Government

12.45 **The Slovenian localisation**

Rade Pribakovic

Institute of Public Health of the Republic of Slovenia

12.55 **The Romanian localisation**

Laurentiu Zolotusca

Romania Ministry of Health

13.05 **The Portuguese experimentation**

Joao Correia

INOVAMAIS

13.15 **The Healththreats project internal evaluation**

Martin Znidarsic

Jozef Stefan Institute

3° session:

The EU projects on preparedness in health emergency

Chairmain

Walter Ricciardi

European Public Health Association (EUPHA)

14.30 **An Overview of the EU projects**

Germain Thinus

DG SANCO

14.45 **FLUMODCONT Project**

Andrea Pugliese

Università di Trento

15.15 **EPISOUTH Project**

Silvia Declich

Istituto Superiore di Sanità

15.45 **ORCHIDS Project**

Richard Amlôt

UK Health Protection Agency

16.15 **Final remarks and closure of the meeting**

Carmelo Scarcella

ASL Brescia

The participation in the Conference is free but it is necessary to compile the attached inscription schedule and send it by e-mail or fax to ASL Brescia - Servizio Educazione alla Salute e attività sperimentali by 13th September 2010. Only 150 participants will be admitted. Conference languages: Italian and English with simultaneous translation

Organizing Secretariat:
ASL di Brescia Servizio Educazione alla Salute e attività sperimentali

For any information:
Tel. +39 030 3838042 / +39 030 3838065 Fax +39 030 3838061
servizio.educazioneallasalute@aslbreccia.it



EPISOUTH

***NETWORK FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL
IN SOUTHERN EUROPE AND MEDITERRANEAN
COUNTRIES***

Flavia Riccardo, Maria Grazia Dente and Silvia Declich

Health Threats in the European Union - Brescia, 24th of September 2010



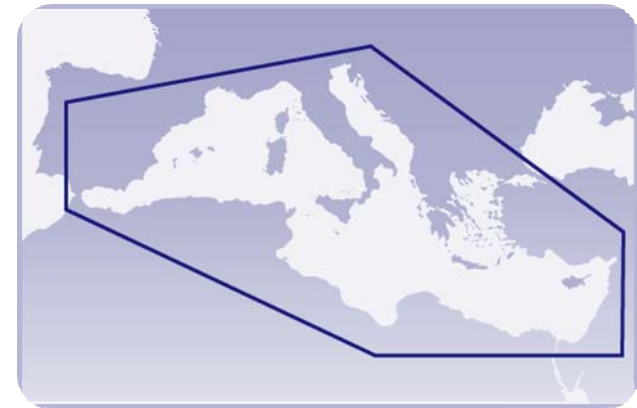
Outline

- ④ Introduction on scope and history of the network
- ④ What the network has done
- ④ What the future holds





- The countries of the Mediterranean region have common sea borders in the remarkable ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea, and, as a result, they share common public health problems and threats



- EpiSouth Network has created a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries in the area of Mediterranean and Balkans



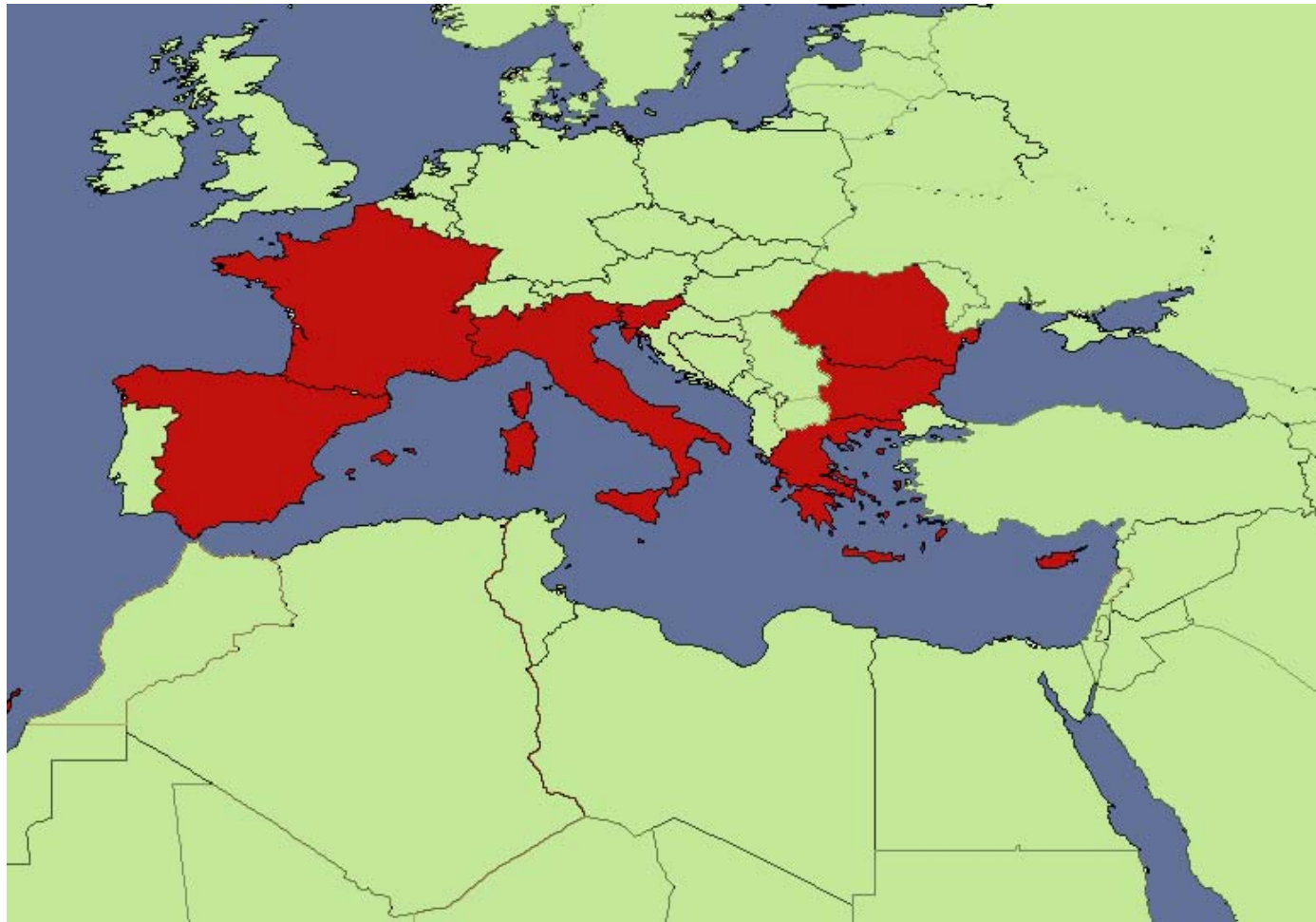
Project history

- ④ In occasion of the Year of the Mediterranean (2005), 6 European Public Health Institutes agreed to elaborate a framework of collaboration
- ④ In October 2006 the EpiSouth Project started with 9 European countries with a Grant Agreement with DG-Sanco



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



 EU Countries at the Project starting (Oct 2006)



Project history

- 🌐 In March 2007 countries from S.Europe, Balkans, N. Africa and Middle East, together with WHO and EC met in Rome to elaborate a new partnership, thanks also to EC TAIEX support
- 🌐 In June 2007 the Italian MOH made funds available for non-EU countries participation



As of September 2010, the EpiSouth Network is composed by:

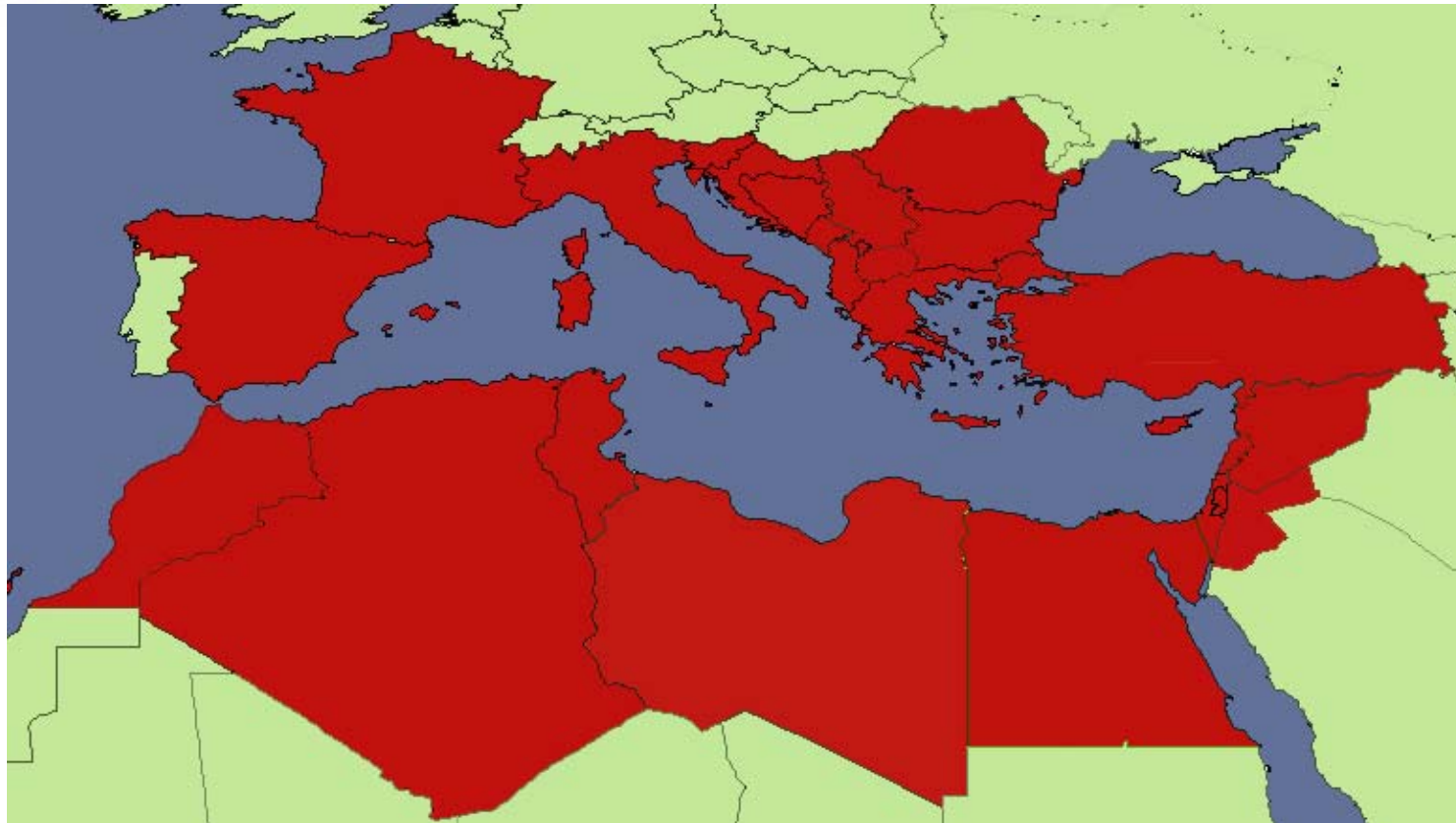
- 27 Countries with 66 Focal Points (MOH/PH Institute)
- and 4 Collaborating Institutions (ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO and Italian MOH)





EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



 Countries as per September 2010

Areas of activities (WPs)

- ④ The project is composed by 8 Work Packages (WPs)
- ④ Each **WP is led by a PH Institution**
- ④ and developed by a **WP Steering Team (WPST)** constituted by the WP Leader and those countries which have expressed their special interest for the related WP to facilitate participation



EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Areas related to health threat identification/detection



- Creation of a trusted **network** to exchange information (WP4)
- Compilation of **directories** of PH institutions and HPH-VPH institutions for zoonosis
- Assessment of **training needs and capacity building in field epidemiology** (WP5)
- Establishment of **cross border epidemic intelligence** in the region (WP6)
- Identification and prioritization of **emerging zoonosis** in the region (WP8)



Project organisation

• Country Focal Points (CFP)

Each country has identified and appointed 1 or 2 relevant persons, who act as CFPs of the Episouth Network and convey all the communication/information to the relevant officers in their respective countries

• Project Steering Committee (SC)

The project is led by a SC, composed by the WP leaders plus representatives of ECDC, EC-DGSanco, WHO-Euro, WHO-Emro, WHO-HQ and of non-UE countries as observers





Main project achievements:

Enlargement

from a European Project to a
Mediterranean Project

in line with the EU's external actions of Neighbourhood
Policy and the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership

Main project achievements: Networking I

- Project Meetings → [on website](#)
- Project Steering Committee Meetings
- WP Steering Team Meetings & teleconferences
- Directory of participating Public Health Institution → [on website](#)



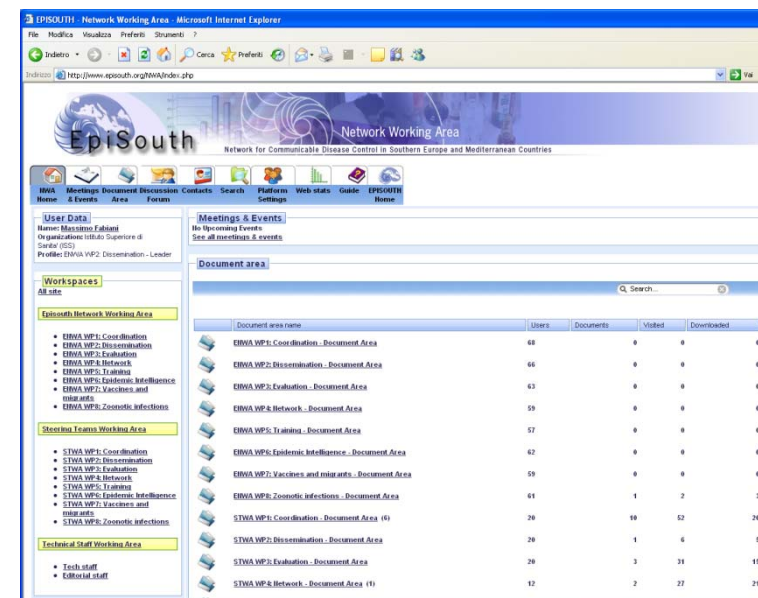
Main project achievements: **Networking II**



A web-based **Network Working Area**: a virtualised work environment where Network participants exchange documents and information in a secure way.

A controlled-access **suite of tools**:

- Meetings and events management
- Document workflow and storage
- Forum for open discussion
- List of contacts
- Data-entry



The screenshot shows the EpiSouth Network Working Area interface. It includes a navigation menu with options like Home, Meetings, Document, Discussion, Contacts, Search, Platform, Web stats, and Guide. The main content area displays a 'Document area' table with columns for Document area name, Users, Documents, Visited, and Downloaded. The table lists various document areas such as 'EpiSouth Network Working Area', 'EpiSouth Network - Document Area', and 'EpiSouth Network - Document Area (1)'. The interface also shows 'User Data' and 'Meetings & Events' sections.

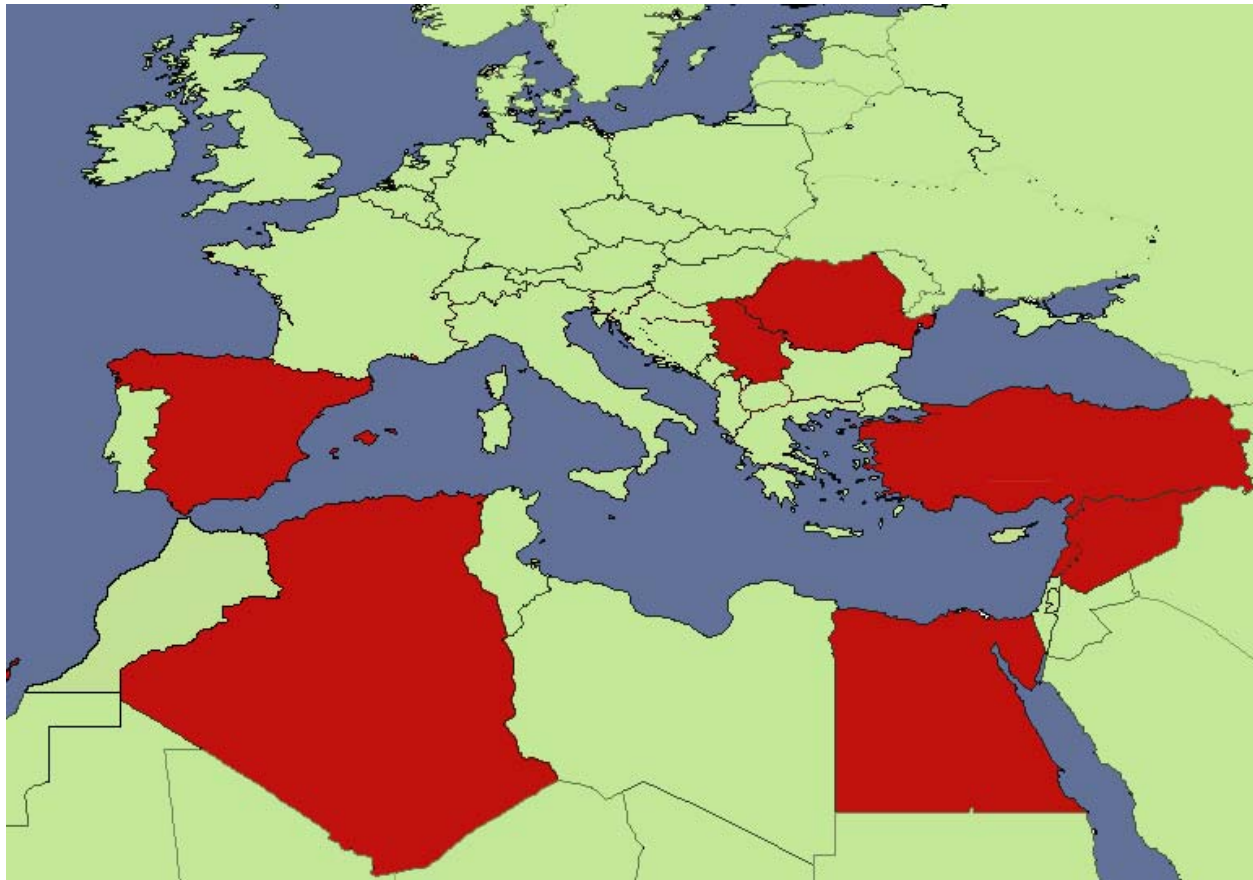
Document area name	Users	Documents	Visited	Downloaded
EpiSouth Network Working Area	68	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	66	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	63	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	59	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	57	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	42	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	59	0	0	0
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	61	1	2	3
EpiSouth Network - Document Area (1)	28	19	52	28
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	28	1	6	5
EpiSouth Network - Document Area	28	3	31	15
EpiSouth Network - Document Area (1)	12	2	27	21

Main project achievements:
Training in field epidemiology



- Training needs assessment for all countries (with ad hoc questionnaire) → [Report 6/2008 on website](#)
- First training module (36 participants plus guests)
Madrid, 10-14 September 2007 → [on website](#)
- Second training module (33 participants plus guests)
Madrid, 2-6 June 2008 → [on website](#)
- Third training module (33 participants plus guests)
Madrid, 15-19 2009 → [on website](#)
- Directory of training courses and fellowships (in progress)






Steering Team WP5
(8 Countries)

- ✓ Spain
- ✓ Romania
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Algeria
- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ Lebanon
- ✓ Turkey
- ✓ Syria



Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Main project achievements:

Cross-border Epidemic Intelligence



- Pilot assessment of existing epidemic intelligence activities in participating countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)

→ [Report 5/2008](#)

- Epidemic Intelligence [weekly bulletins](#) and thematic notes → [on website](#)

- Website secured section on cross-border epidemic intelligence with alerts originating from partners → [on website \(only members\)](#)

EpiSouth Weekly Epi Bulletin - N°1
March 19th, 2008 - March 25th, 2008

INDEX e-WEB n°1

- A(H5N1) Avian influenza: update of the situation as of 25th March 2008
 - Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases of Avian Influenza A(H5N1) reported to WHO
 - Notification of new avian influenza outbreak (last 1st)
- Yellow fever in Latin America
- Meningitis in Sub-Saharan Africa

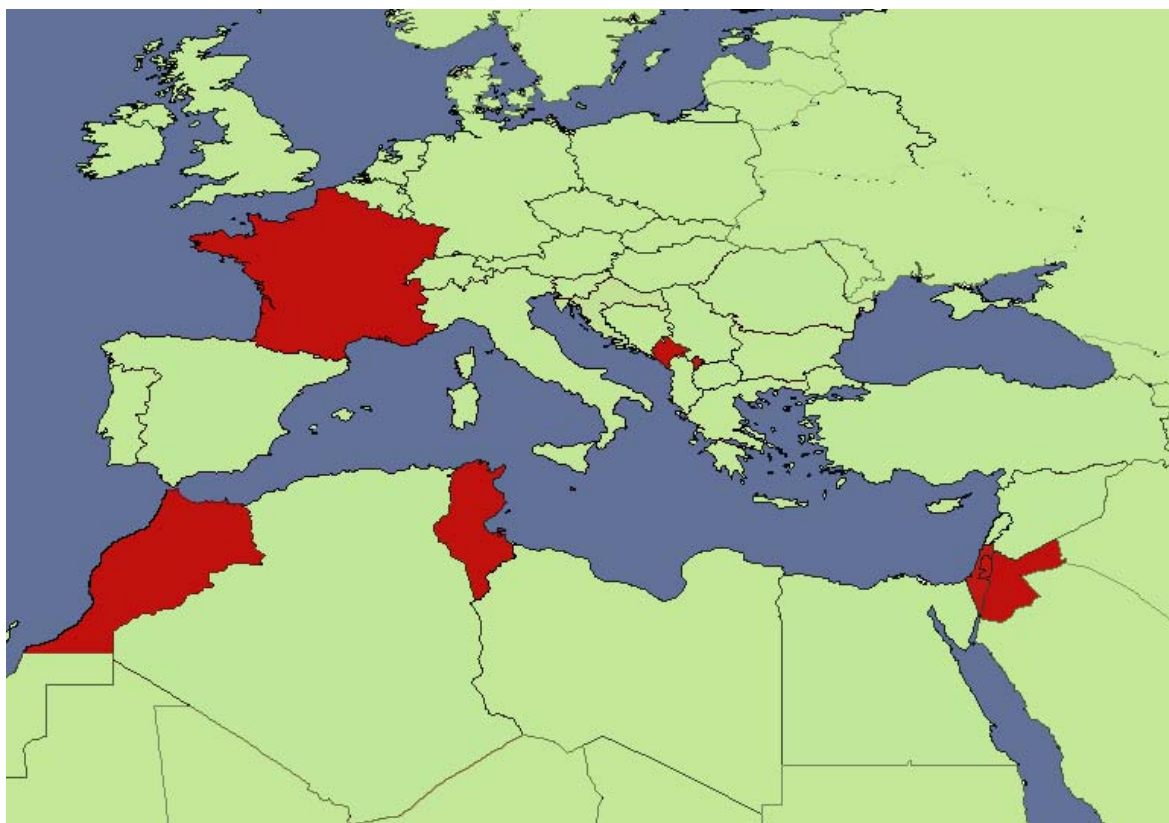
Country	2002-2005		2006		2007		2008		Total
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Azerbaijan	0	0	8	5	0	0	0	0	8
Burma	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Cameroon	4	4	2	2	1	1	0	0	7
China	8	6	23	8	5	3	3	3	36
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
France	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indonesia	20	13	88	45	42	36	12	11	129
Italy	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	2
Malaysia	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Nepal	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Thailand	22	14	7	3	0	0	0	0	29
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vietnam	93	42	0	0	0	0	0	0	93
Total	128	72	118	79	69	58	24	20	329

Vietnam

- On March 18th, 2008 the Vietnamese authorities have notified two new avian influenza outbreaks:
 - In the province of **Ca Mau**. The last notified avian influenza outbreak in this province was reported in July 2007.
 - In the province of **Quang Nam**. The last notified avian influenza outbreak in this province was reported in June 2007.
- To date, at least 5 provinces have observed avian influenza outbreak during the last 3 weeks: Quang Tri, Soc Trang, Quang Binh, Quang Nam, Ca Mau.

Comments: The identification of new outbreaks in a country already affected does not change the global epidemiological situation.






Steering Team WP 6
(9 Countries)

- ✓ France
- ✓ Malta
- ✓ Montenegro
- ✓ Kosovo
- ✓ Morocco
- ✓ Tunisia
- ✓ Israel
- ✓ Jordan
- ✓ Palestine

Main project achievements:

***Vaccine preventable diseases
and migrant populations***



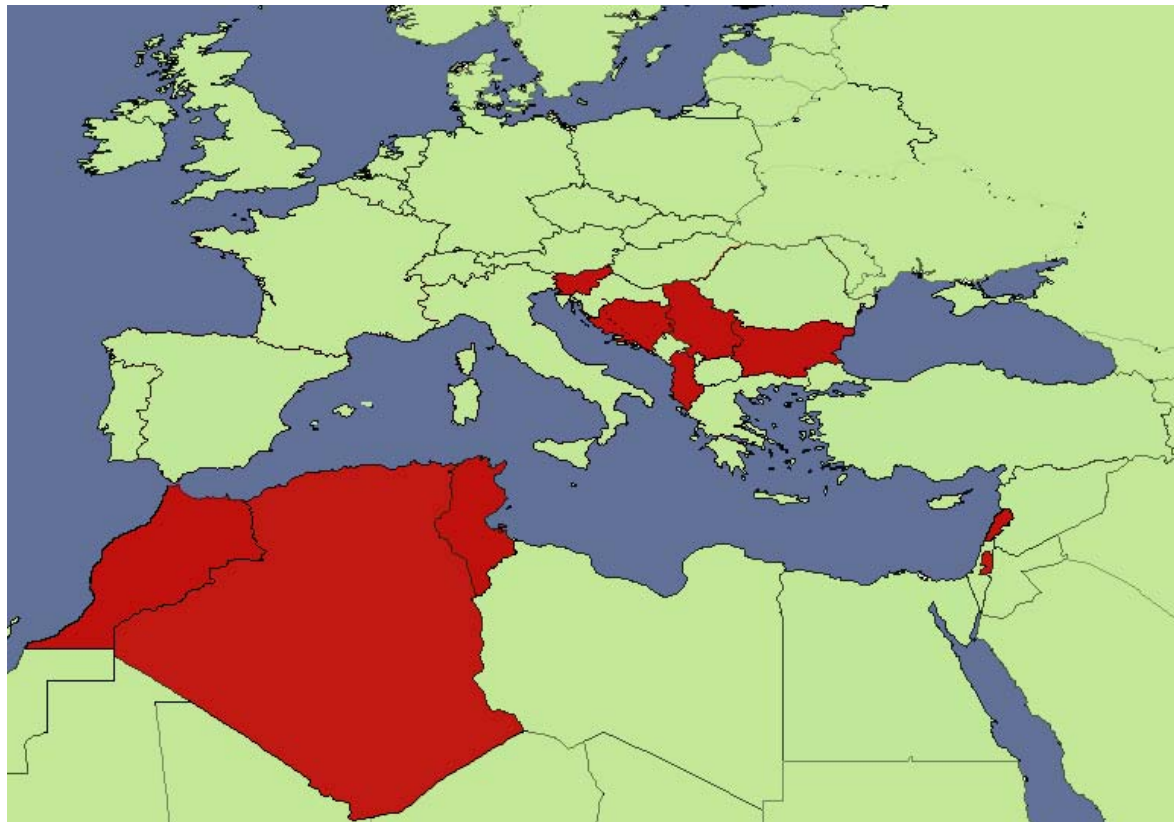
- Pilot assessment of vaccine-preventable diseases and migrant populations in participating countries (with ad hoc questionnaire)
- On-line survey on countries migration status profile and vaccination access of mobile population → [on website](#)





EpiSouth

Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries



Steering Team WP7

(10 Countries)

- ✓ Bulgaria
- ✓ Slovenia
- ✓ Albania
- ✓ B&H
- ✓ Serbia
- ✓ Morocco
- ✓ Algeria
- ✓ Tunisia
- ✓ Lebanon
- ✓ Palestine

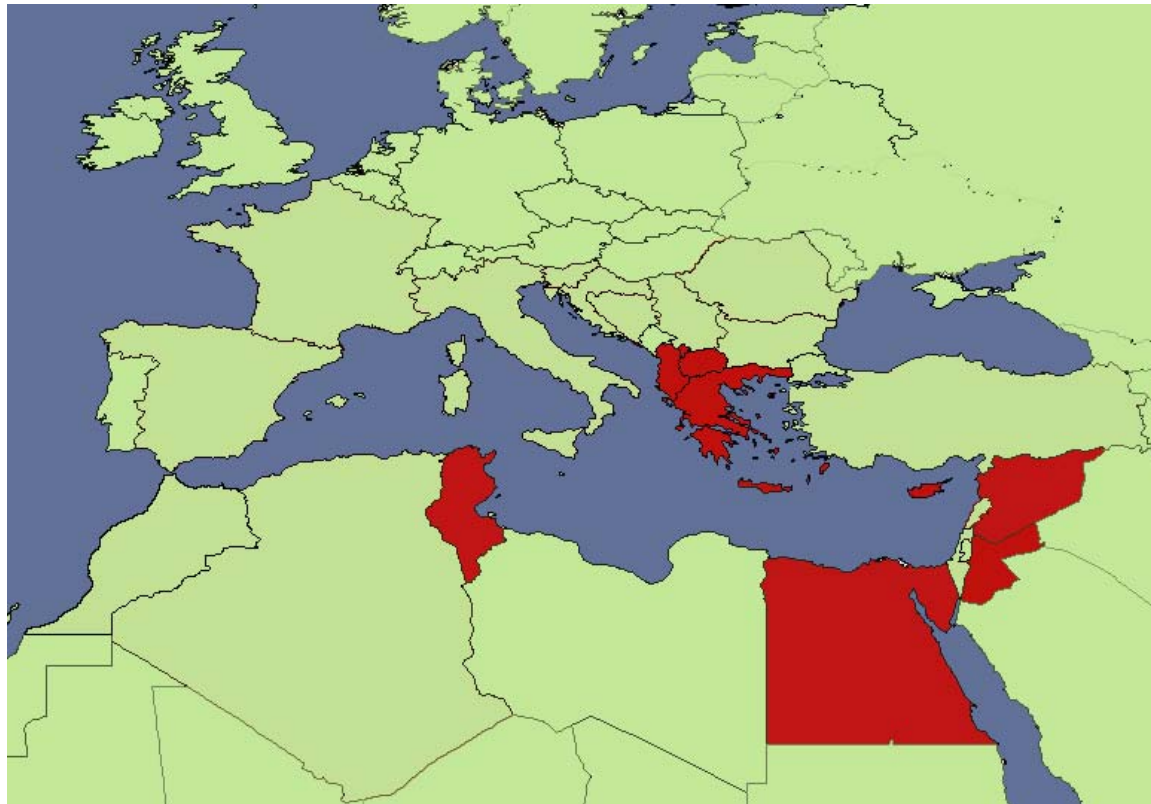
Main project achievements:



Cross-border emerging zoonoses

- Assessment and selection of five zoonoses of priority in the Episouth countries (with ad hoc questionnaire) → [Report 4/2008](#)
- Situation report by country regarding: Brucellosis, Campylobacteriosis, Leishmaniasis, Rabies and West Nile Virus
- On-line questionnaire for contacts of countries Human and Veterinary PH officials
- Directory of Human and Veterinary PH officials → [on website](#)



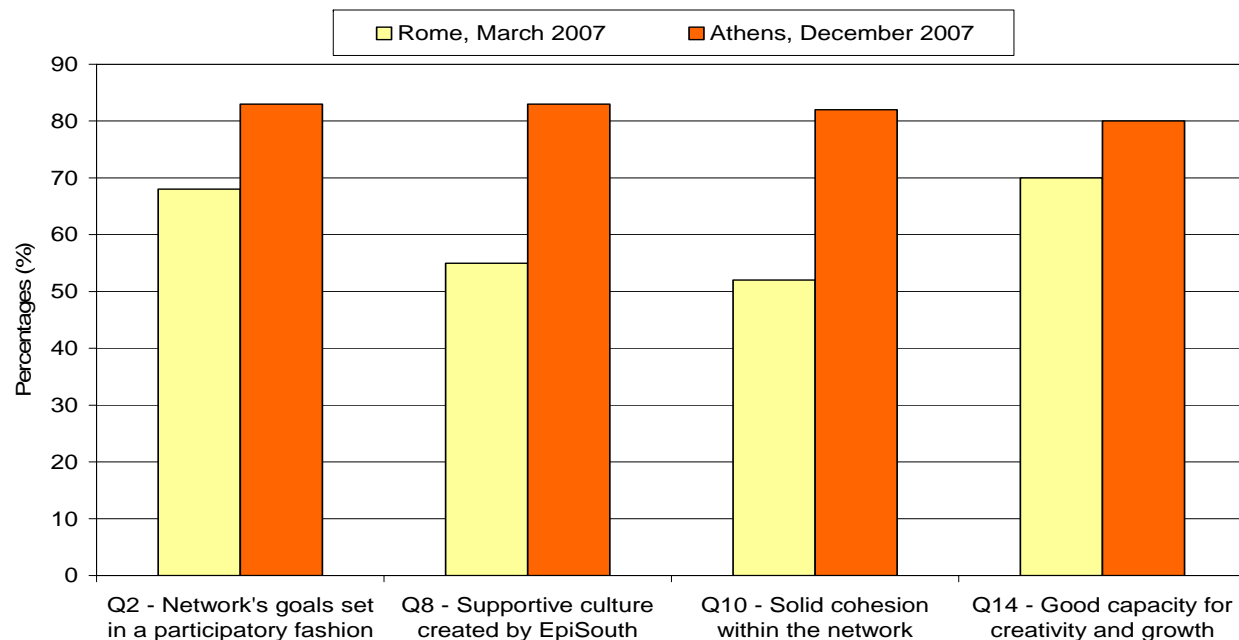



Steering Team WP8
(9 Countries)

- ✓ Greece
- ✓ Cyprus
- ✓ Albania
- ✓ FYROM
- ✓ Kosovo
- ✓ Tunisia
- ✓ Egypt
- ✓ Jordan
- ✓ Syria

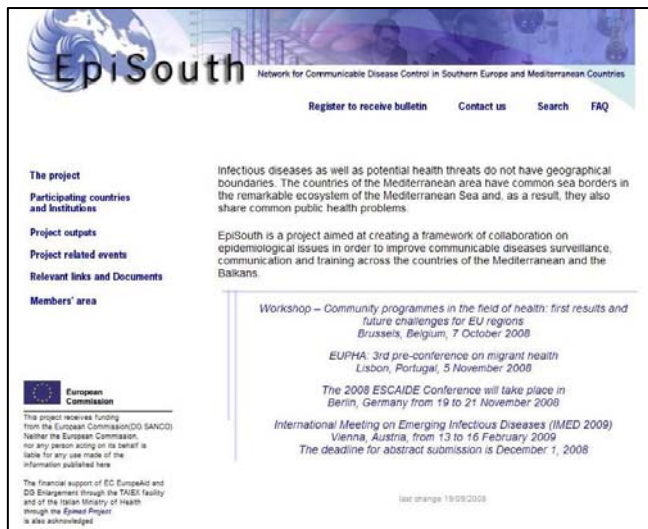
Main project achievements: Monitoring

- Monitoring of Network Development through questionnaires distributed during the 1st and 2nd Project Meetings → [Report 3/2008](#)
- Mid term evaluation → [Report 9/2009](#)



Main project achievements: *Dissemination I*

- EpiSouth Web Site www.episouth.org
- EpiSouth Quarterly Bulletins mailed to registered users → [on website](#)



EpiSouth Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

Register to receive bulletin Contact us Search FAQ

The project
Participating countries and Institutions
Project outputs
Project related events
Relevant links and Documents
Members' area

Infectious diseases as well as potential health threats do not have geographical boundaries. The countries of the Mediterranean area have common sea borders in the remarkable ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea and, as a result, they also share common public health problems.

EpiSouth is a project aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries of the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

Workshop – Community programmes in the field of health: first results and future challenges for EU regions
 Brussels, Belgium, 7 October 2008

EUPHA 3rd pre-conference on migrant health
 Lisbon, Portugal, 5 November 2008

The 2008 ESCAIDE Conference will take place in
 Berlin, Germany from 19 to 21 November 2008

International Meeting on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IMED 2009)
 Vienna, Austria, from 13 to 16 February 2009
 The deadline for abstract submission is December 1, 2008

last change 19/09/2008

European Commission
 This project receives funding from the European Commission (DG SANCO) Neither the European Commission, nor any person acting on its behalf is liable for any use made of the information published here
 The financial support of EC, European and DG Enlargement through the TRAXIS facility and of the Italian Ministry of Health through the Epasud Project is also acknowledged



EpiSouth Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

EpiSouth Electronic Bulletin
 Issue 1 – January 2008

EpiSouth Documents
 This Electronic Bulletin has been developed at the EpiSouth Conference held in Strasbourg, France on 18-20 October 2007

EpiSouth Events
 The 2nd Primary Meeting has been held in Berlin, Germany on 19-21 November 2008

EpiSouth Activities
 The project "EpiSouth" is aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across Mediterranean countries. The project is articulated in 8 Work Packages (WP)

The EpiSouth Network
 Starting as an EU project, EpiSouth emerged in December 2006 through the decision of the European Commission. From an initial involvement of 12 countries (Italy, Spain, France, Greece, and Bulgaria), it includes now partners from Mediterranean region and 22 countries from Southern Europe, Southern Africa, and Northern Africa

Focus Topic
 The Conference "Health and Migration in the EU: better health for all in an inclusive society" (October, Portugal, 22-26 September 2007) set out to provide the scientific base and establish the relevant issues and activities that are important and long-standing themes in the EU health agenda

WP1. Co-ordination of the project
WP2. Dissemination of the project
WP3. Evaluation of the project
WP4. Network of public health institutions
WP5. Training in field/rapid epidemiology
WP6. Cross-border epidemic intelligence
WP7. Vaccine-preventable diseases and related zoonoses
WP8. Epidemiology and surveillance in cross-border emergency responses

Participating Institutional Organizations

You have received the electronic Bulletin published by the EpiSouth project
 You are receiving this Bulletin because you have registered your e-mail address at the EpiSouth website

We acknowledge the contribution of Paolo Biscardi



Main project achievements: **Dissemination II**

- Presentation at Conferences and Workshops → [on website](#)
- Articles, leaflet and outline → [on website](#)

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS

- ALBANIA, Tirana (Institute of Public Health);
- ALGERIA, Alger (National Institute of Public Health);
- BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (Ministry of Civil Affairs, Sarajevo; Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska; Public Health Institute, Mostar, Federation of BiH);
- BULGARIA, Sofia (National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases-NCIPO);
- CROATIA, Zagreb (Croatian National Institute of Public Health);
- CYPRUS, Nicosia (Ministry of Health);
- EGYPT, Cairo (Ministry of Health and Population);
- FYROM-Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Skopje (Institute for Health Protection; Clinic of Infectious Diseases);
- FRANCE, Saint Maurice Cedex (Institute for Public Health Surveillance-InVS);
- GREECE, Athens (Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention-HCDCP);
- ISRAEL, (Center for Disease Control, Tel Hashomer; Ministry of Health, Jerusalem);
- ITALY (National Institute of Health-ISS, Rome; Teaching Hospital, Padua);
- JORDAN, Amman (Ministry of Health);
- KOSOVO UNSCR 1244, Prishtina (National Institute of Public Health);
- LEBANON, Beirut (Ministry of Public Health);
- MALTA, Msida (Ministry of Health, Elderly and Community Care);
- MONTENEGRO, Podgorica (Institute of Public Health);
- MOROCCO, Rabat (Ministry of Health);
- PALESTINE, Kamalieh (Ministry of Health);
- ROMANIA Bucharest (Institute of Public Health);
- SERBIA, Belgrade (Institute of Public Health);
- SLOVENIA, Ljubljana (Institute for Public Health);
- SPAIN, Madrid (Carlos III Health Institute-ISCIII);
- SYRIA, Damascus (Ministry of Health);
- TUNISIA, Tunis (Ministry of Health);
- TURKEY, Ankara (Ministry of Health; Refik Saydam National Hygiene Center);
- ECDC-European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Stockholm; Sweden;
- EUROPEAN COMMISSION-DG SANCO Public Health Directorate, Luxembourg;
- MOH-Ministry of Work, Health and Social Policies, Rome, Italy;
- WHO-EHRD Regional Office for Eastern Mediterranean, Cairo, Egypt;
- WHO-EURO Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen, Denmark;
- WHO-LYO Department of Epidemic and Pandemic Alert and Response, International Health Regulations Coordination, Lyon, France.



2nd EpiSouth Project Meeting (Athens 2007)



2nd EpiSouth Training (Madrid 2008)



EpiSouth Project
Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean

www.episouth.org

The project receives funding from the European Commission (DG SANCO). The financial support of EC, EuroAid and EU Enlargement through the TAIEI facility and of the Italian Ministry of Health, through the EpiMed Project is also acknowledged.

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Perspectives

EpiSOUTH: A NETWORK FOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION AND THE BALKANS

M. G. Berra (m.g.berra@iss.it), M. Fabrizio, F. Benvenuto, F. Parodi, C. Moravcsik, F. Stefanescu, C. Hardeza, F. Parodi, F. Barbone, F. Altieri, M. Zojzovic, M. V. Lashinova, I. Voron, K. Kallus, G. Chiniou, S. Dackiw, for the EpiSouth Network *

1. Istituto Superiore di Sanità (National Institute of Health), National Centre for Epidemiology, Surveillance and Health Promotion, Rome, Italy
2. Padua Teaching Hospital, Training and International Projects Department, Padua, Italy
3. Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Carlos III Health Institute, National Epidemiology Centre, Madrid, Spain
4. Institut de Veille Sanitaire (French Institute for Public Health Surveillance), Department of Intermedial and Tropical Diseases, Saint-Maurice, France Cedex, Madrid, Spain
5. National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases, Department of Epidemiology and Surveillance of Communicable Diseases, Sofia, Bulgaria
6. Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Office for Zoonoses and Foodborne Diseases, Athens, Greece
7. European Commission, Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection (DG-Sanco), Luxembourg, Luxembourg
8. The Members of the EpiSouth Network, are listed at the end of the article

The countries around the Mediterranean Sea share epidemiological characteristics and public health problems. In 2006 the EpiSouth Project was started as a framework for collaboration for communicable disease surveillance and training in the Mediterranean basin. As of December 2008, 28 countries from southern Europe, the Balkans, North Africa and the Middle-East are members of EpiSouth and several international organizations and institutions collaborate: the European Commission (EC), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), the Italian Ministry of Work, Health and Social Policies and the World Health Organization (WHO). The project is coordinated by the Italian national public health institute and three work packages (WP): Cross-border epidemic intelligence, vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants and Cross-border emerging zoonoses are operated by the national institutes of France, Bulgaria and Greece. These WPs constitute technical pillars on which the project develops. Networking and Training are WPs dedicated to capacity building and are run by the Padua Teaching Hospital (Italy) and the Spanish national public health institute. A steering committee guides EpiSouth activities while all countries collaborate through WP-allowing lessons and focal points. A number of outcomes have been accomplished and documents with results are available from the EpiSouth website which hosts a public website and a restricted area for direct sharing of information among the participants. Five electronic bulletins were published, two trainings for 65 participants performed, national epidemic intelligence systems were evaluated, a preliminary survey on vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants performed, and a list of priorities for averting zoonoses in the Mediterranean area was selected. Overall the network succeeded in creating cohesion, mutual trust and concrete collaboration on cross-border public health issues in a geographical area that is not addressed as a whole by any other initiative or organization.

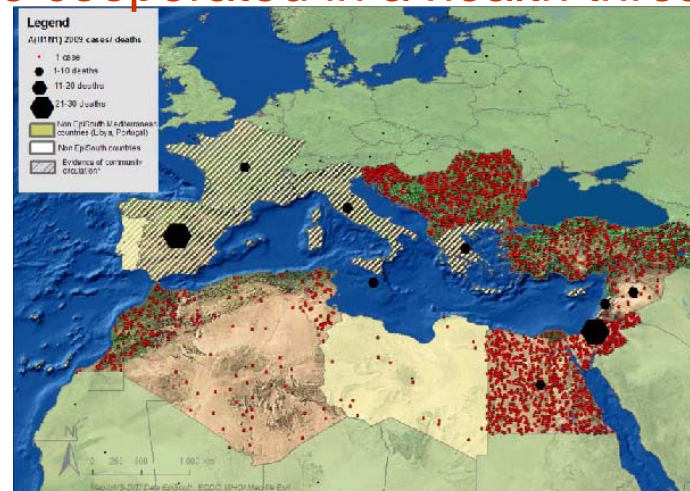
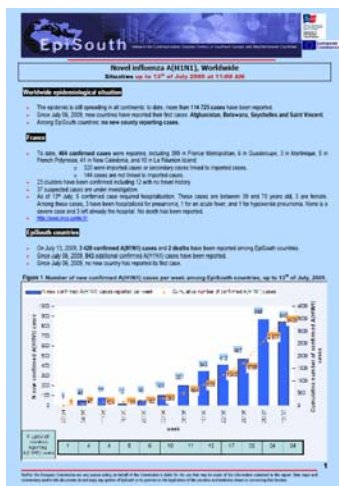
Background
Infectious diseases are threats to human health that can rapidly spread across geographical regions and borders. Today, a number of them are preventable through effective and safe vaccines however, the majority are still prevented and controlled through a comprehensive approach, in which surveillance plays a crucial role. In order to initiate appropriate public health action, early detection of cases, dissemination of information, and cross-border, harmonized and prompt response are crucial. The countries of the Mediterranean region have common sea borders in the ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea and share public health problems. To address these common problems, in 2004, experts from Bulgaria, Greece, France and Italy designed a co-operative initiative covering the Mediterranean region and the Balkans, similar to that developed by the EpiNorth Project for the Baltic Region (1). Spain soon joined the initiative and on occasion of the Year of the Mediterranean, in 2005, the project called EpiSouth was proposed to the countries in this area and to the European Commission (EC) for funding. EpiSouth was officially launched on 1 October 2006 and receives funding until 30 September 2009. The general objective of the project is to create a framework for collaboration on epidemiological issues. To improve communicable diseases surveillance and communication and provide training for public health experts in the participating countries.

Methods
To enhance communicable disease control capacity in the Mediterranean region and the Balkans priority areas for activities were identified. Work in these areas is coordinated through specific work packages (WP) and EpiSouth is focusing on the WP: Cross-border epidemic intelligence, vaccine-preventable diseases and migrants and Cross-border emerging zoonoses which are expected

Reaction to H1N1 health threat

- Directories of PH institutions and HPH and VPH officials available (WP4-8)
- Focal Points identified, trained and interacting each other (WP4-5)
- FPs willing to share data through the web-based Network Working Area (WP4-2)
- Information made available through Informative Notes on H1N1 (WP6-2)

Mediterranean countries have cooperated in a health threats situation (WP1)





***EpiSouth Conference on CD and PH in
the Mediterranean and Balkans
Rome, 21-23 April 2010***

Presentation of 4 strategic documents
focused on Mediterranean area for:

- ✓ Cross-border epidemic intelligence
- ✓ Vaccine-preventable diseases and migrant populations
- ✓ Epidemiology & preparedness to cross-border emerging zoonoses
- ✓ Training on field/applied epidemiology

4th EpiSouth Project Meeting
Discussion of future development



Lesson Learned I

Project Organization

revised for sharing responsibilities with all countries (after the First Meeting)



Lesson Learned II

Countries expectations and needs

All WPs have developed pilot survey for assessing countries expectations and needs in related fields:

- training assessment needs
- epidemic intelligence in place in each country
- VPD and migrants profile in each country
- zoonoses priority for each country



Lesson Learned III

Countries and Institutions are willing to participate and to commit to the Network

(9 EU countries have signed Agreement with EC)

18 countries voluntarily wrote a commitment letter to the project coordinator

4 institutions are participating in this partnership



Lesson Learned IV

Networking as tool for Stability

Networking provided a tool for stability in terms of confidence building and collaborative working relationship among PH professional in the participant countries



Episouth Network: Added Values

- raises awareness on regional and countries cross-border issues
- succeeds in creating trust, cohesion and concrete collaboration among 27 countries of South Europe, Balkans, North Africa and Middle East
- fills a geographical area with common public health problems (Balkans and Mediterranean Basin) that is not addressed, as a whole, neither by the European Commission nor by WHO





Balkans and Mediterranean basin

➤ WHO

- **Europe region: WHO-EURO (17/27):** Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, FYROM, Turkey
- **Eastern Mediterranean region: WHO-EMRO (8/27):** Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Lybia.
- **Africa region: WHO-AFRO (1/27):** Algeria

➤ European Commission:

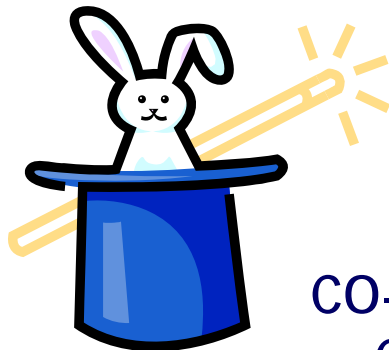
- **ECDC(9/27):** Southern European Union Countries of Mediterranean: Bulgaria, Cyprus France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Romania, Slovenia, Spain
- **European Neighborhood Policy (19/27):** all EU plus Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Lybia.
- **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (23*/27):** all EU plus Albania, Algeria, Bosnia, Croatia, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey.

* Lybia not counted as it is only an observer

What Next? *EpiSouth-Plus*

Planned Starting: 15 October 2010

Duration: 30 months



Co-Funding Agencies:

EU DGSANCO & EU DGAIDCO

CO-FINANCING OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF THE
COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN THE NETWORK



General Objective

*To increase the health security in the Mediterranean Area and Balkans by enhancing and strengthening the **preparedness to common health threats and other risks** at national and regional levels in the Countries of EpiSouth Network **in the framework of the International Health Regulations implementation.***





Specific objectives

- i) Establishment of a Mediterranean Regional **Laboratories network** (WP4)
- ii) Promotion of common procedures in interoperable **Generic Preparedness and Risk management** for the Countries involved in the Network (WP5)
- iii) **Interoperable Early warning systems (EWS) and alerts platform** able to share info between EpiSouth countries and with other Early Warning platforms and optimization of EI (WP6)
- iv) Production of guidelines and strategic documents based on assessments and surveys aimed at **facilitate IHR implementation** (WP7)

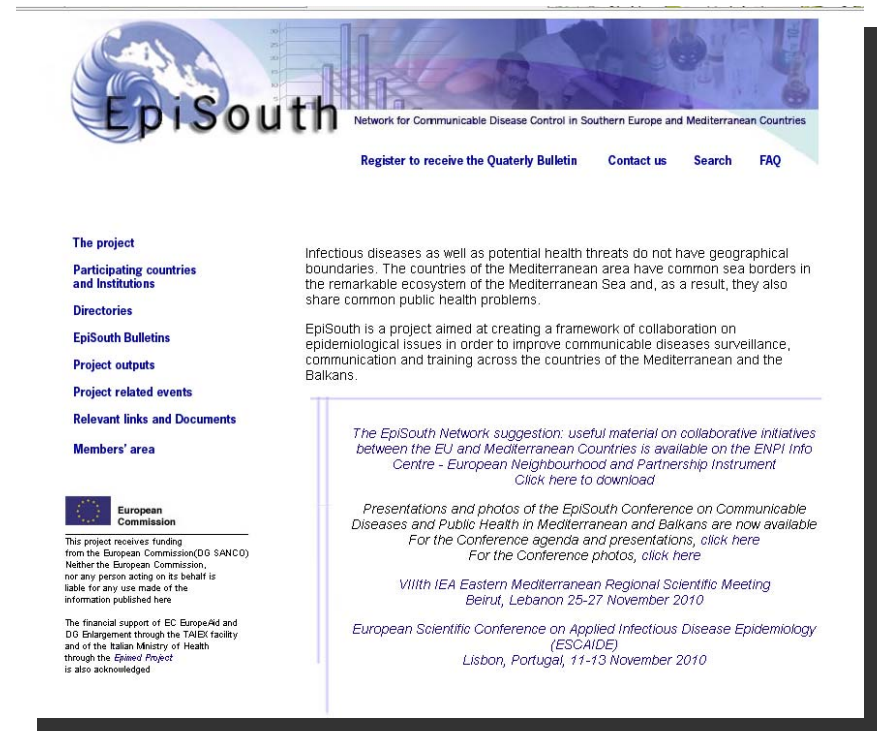




For more information

 EpiSouth Website www.episouth.org

Thanks on behalf of
the EpiSouth
Network



EpiSouth Network for Communicable Disease Control in Southern Europe and Mediterranean Countries

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The project

Participating countries and Institutions

Directories


EpiSouth Bulletins

Project outputs

Project related events

Relevant links and Documents

Members' area

 **European Commission**

This project receives funding from the European Commission (DG SANCO). Neither the European Commission, nor any person acting on its behalf is liable for any use made of the information published here.

The financial support of EC EuropeAid and DG Enlargement through the TAIEK facility and of the Italian Ministry of Health through the EpiMed Project is also acknowledged.

Infectious diseases as well as potential health threats do not have geographical boundaries. The countries of the Mediterranean area have common sea borders in the remarkable ecosystem of the Mediterranean Sea and, as a result, they also share common public health problems.

EpiSouth is a project aimed at creating a framework of collaboration on epidemiological issues in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, communication and training across the countries of the Mediterranean and the Balkans.

The EpiSouth Network suggestion: useful material on collaborative initiatives between the EU and Mediterranean Countries is available on the ENPI Info Centre - European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument. [Click here to download](#)

Presentations and photos of the EpiSouth Conference on Communicable Diseases and Public Health in Mediterranean and Balkans are now available. [For the Conference agenda and presentations, click here](#). [For the Conference photos, click here](#)

VIIIth IEA Eastern Mediterranean Regional Scientific Meeting, Beirut, Lebanon 25-27 November 2010

European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology (ESCAIDE), Lisbon, Portugal, 11-13 November 2010